



## Lesson 9 | A Faith that Bargains with God

Genesis 18:1-33

God doesn't need our help, yet He chooses to partner with us in carrying out His will. In this chapter God partners with Abraham by first appearing to him in the form of a regular man, telling Abraham His future plans, and finally engaging in a back and forth with Abraham about the best course of action going forward.

### Abraham Shows Hospitality (18:1-8)

#### Abraham's \_\_\_\_\_ Welcome

Upon seeing guests Abraham immediately jumps up in the heat of the day, runs to these visitors that have appeared, bows before them, and greets them.

#### Abraham's \_\_\_\_\_ Welcome

Abraham then prepares a feast that includes a bread, a calf, curds, and milk. This is quite the meal for random strangers Abraham has just met. While we might have different customs today, it is still important to make strangers feel welcome, and it is helpful to see that God blesses Abraham in the process of "ordinary" obedience.

### God Promises Sarah a Son (18:9-15)

#### God's Promise concerning \_\_\_\_\_

Sarah was in the tent and overheard the visitors tell Abraham that she will have a son. Although Sarah was not a direct part of the conversation, what God had said was no doubt for her benefit.



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### Sarah's \_\_\_\_\_

Sarah responds by laughing in her heart. Her response shows that at this point, she doesn't believe this could happen. But as with Abraham, her eventual response is faith (cf Hebrews 11:11).

### God's Firm \_\_\_\_\_

God responds to Sara by asking two questions, first pointing out that she laughed, and then asking if there is anything too hard for God.

## God Shares His Plan with Abraham (18:16-22)

### God's \_\_\_\_\_

This section shows why these supernatural figures are passing through – God is going to investigate Sodom to see if it is as bad as it sounds.

### God's \_\_\_\_\_ for Including Abraham

God decides that He will tell Abraham His plan: (1) because God knows that Abraham will become a great and mighty nation, and (2) because God has a special relationship with Abraham and desires to see Abraham lead his family well, so God wants to bring Abraham in to be a part of what He is planning.

## Abraham Intercedes for Sodom (18:23-33)

### Abraham Appeals on Behalf of the \_\_\_\_\_

While Abraham might have been concerned for Lot, he doesn't simply ask God to spare Lot. Instead, he appeals for all those who are righteous who would be destroyed along with the wicked. Abraham shows a concern for all people, not just his family.

### Abraham Appeals to the \_\_\_\_\_ of God

The ultimate rationale for Abraham's pleading, however, is not just that innocent people might die. Ultimately, his appeal is based on the character of God. Abraham bases his argument on the very character of God. God is a God of justice, therefore He cannot act unjustly.

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